

July 54BC

Caesar spent earlier months in Cisalpine Gaul & Illyrian part of his province, Tribes raiding from southeast had to be brought into submission.

Meanwhile ships were being constructed for a second and more convincing expedition to Britain.

Aug 54 BC

The tragic death of Julia, Caesar's daughter and Pompey's wife occurred Apr or 2 earlier she had suffered a miscarriage after catching sight of Pompey's cloak covered with blood after a violent public meeting. A further childbirth proved too much for her and her baby died a few days after herself. Pompey had intended to

bury her in his property near Alba Longa,  
but enormous crowds at her funeral,  
defied the Consul ALTENOBARBUS, carried  
off her body and gave it an imposing  
cremation in the Field of Mars.

Autumn 54BC

Disaster struck promptly when the easternmost of the Roman garrisons at AOUATUCA (Tongera, near the Meuse, north of Liege) was overwhelmed and the 1 1/2 legions that formed its garrison, consisting mostly of raw recruits were annihilated. This calamity, an unprecedented experience for Caesars was the work of AMBIORIX, the determined king of the Belgic tribe, the EBURONES, who inhabited the hills & woods

of the ARDEANES. Word spread to those of the  
nervii who had survived the Roman massacre  
3 yrs earlier & CICEERO's brother, QUINTUS, in  
command of the garrison surrounded at NAMUR  
enjoyed his finest hour when he got a loyal sally  
through to Caesar's HQ at (AMBIENS), and held out  
until his general brought relief. Caesar was alarmed  
at first when he saw the impressive siege machines  
that AMBIBORIX had imitated from the Romans.

Labeenus (see S. 42) found himself faced by open  
revolt from 100,000 men of the TREVERI, Labeenus  
cavalry put indignant men to death, but it was clear  
that the whole structure of 'pacified' Gaul had  
collapsed and only the Aedui & Remi could still  
be relied upon to collaborate.

SHBC (Letter post of Sept & fall)

Caesar returned to Gaul from Britain  
At Rome Caesar was able to make much  
of the fact that the provinces of such remote  
and exotic regions submitted themselves  
to himself and the Republic.

Neither Caesar nor anyone else  
made anything out of Britain which  
did not become a Roman province  
until southern England was

conquered a hundred yrs later.

Autumn 540C

In the Gauls to which Caesar returned from Britain in Autumn, it soon became clear that the supposed pacification was unreal, the trouble started among the CARNOTES who lived around CENABUM (ORLÉANS). Their country containing dark and impenetrable forests was the principal HQ and annual meeting-place of the Druids. This privileged religious hierarchy exercised judicial, educational and administrative



function, possessed a monopoly of writing (using the Greek script) and was excused from taxation and military service.

3 yrs earlier Caesar had appointed a king of this important tribe of the Carnutes; and now they proceeded to assassinate his nominee. Caesar detached troops straightaway to deal with the situation, but did not deviate from his previous plan to divide up the winter quarters of his army among a number of different centres. This division was dictated by a bad harvest & because the places selected were in the home region of the formidable tribe of the Belgae.

54BC

Julia, Caesar's daughter, wife  
of Pompey died.

Pompey began to oppose  
Caesar

54BC

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Aulus Gabinius was condemned  
for extortion and sent into exile.

543C

Cassini's invasion of the British  
Isles brought literacy to the  
country.

54-51 BC

On the Republic  
(De Re Publica)  
my book later treated  
in political philosophy, by  
Roman orator, prose writer  
and statesman, Cicero.